



## CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

18 MAY 2017

---

### (U) CALIFORNIA

#### (U) San Francisco – Hackers Mint Crypto-Currency with Technique in Global “WannaCry” Attack

(U) A virus exploiting the same vulnerability as the “WannaCry” attack has infected about 200,000 computers while minting digital cash, according to the California-based security firm Proofpoint. The virus—which installs a “miner” to generate digital cash—began in late April or early May, and went undiscovered because it allows computers to run while surreptitiously creating digital cash. The culprits may have gleaned more than \$1 million, more than the “WannaCry” attack, according to Proofpoint. SOURCE: 17 May 2017, [Reuters](#)

### (U) NATIONAL

#### (U) Florida – Coast Guard to Offload Half Billion in Seized Cocaine at Port Everglades

(U) Fort Lauderdale – The US Coast Guard (USCG) is scheduled to offload more than 18 tons of seized cocaine at Port Everglades Thursday morning. The drugs, worth nearly half a billion dollars, were seized along Central and South America in the eastern Pacific by crews of several USCG cutters and a Royal Canadian Navy ship. The USCG said the offload represents 20 separate drug smuggling vessel interdictions.

SOURCE: 18 May 2017, [CBS News](#)

#### (U) Tennessee – Leader of Nashville Heroin Sales Pleads Guilty

(U) Nashville – Jorge Andres Lopez Montiel, 26, from Tepic Nayarit, Mexico—and a member of a Mexican drug cartel—pleaded guilty earlier this week to multiple charges including possession with intent to distribute heroin, and conspiracy with intent to distribute heroin and methamphetamine. Montiel had been previously deported but continued to distribute heroin, and later methamphetamine, to Tennessee through a network of foot soldiers acting on his commands, according to prosecutors.

SOURCE: 18 May 2017, [Associated Press](#)

### (U) INTERNATIONAL

#### (U) England – Met Police Arrest Four Men in East London on Suspicion of Planning Attack

(U) London – Four men—aged between 18 and 27—were arrested yesterday on suspicion of plotting a terror attack in the UK as part of “an ongoing investigation by the Met's Counter Terrorism Command and MI5,” according to a police spokesperson. Investigators gave no further details on the operation, which follows a series of stings targeting alleged ISIS supporters in Britain.

SOURCE: 17 May 2017, [Independent](#)

#### (U) Germany – Two Men Charged with Co-Founding Far-Right Terror Group

(U) Berlin – Prosecutors filed terrorism charges against two alleged co-founders of a far-right group—called the Oldschool Society—that planned to bomb a refugee home. The two German men, identified only as Daniel A. and Marcel L. in line with German privacy rules, were charged with membership in a terrorist organization, preparing an explosion, and violating weapons laws, according to prosecutors.

The plan to attack a refugee home in 2015 was thwarted when four founding members were detained.  
SOURCE: 18 May 2017, [Associated Press](#)

**(U) Iraq – US Believes ISIS' Bomb-Making Research Includes New Generation of Explosives**

(U) Mosul – Evidence uncovered in Mosul, Iraq indicates ISIS has been developing a new type of bomb that could pass through airport scanners undetected, according to US officials. It is already believed Mosul University was the center of ISIS' bomb-making, but US officials now believe ISIS research includes new, more powerful explosives that can be concealed in computers. The threat has already partly led to the US ban of electronics on flights from ten airports in the Middle East and Africa.

SOURCE: 17 May 2017, [CBS News](#)

**(U) Mexico – Government Disarms Local Police in Pacific Tourist Destination**

(U) Zihuatanejo – Authorities have disarmed local police infiltrated by organized crime in the tourist destination of Zihuatanejo. Authorities arrested three police officers on 16 May tied to organized crime, and disarmed 42 unaccredited police officers. An additional 15 officers who failed confidence tests were also found to still be armed, according to security official Roberto Alvarez. Alvarez added that the army and state police will take over public safety duties in the city until local police can be investigated.

SOURCE: 18 May 2017, [Associated Press](#)

**(U) Syria – ISIS Creating Chemical Weapons Cell in New de Facto Capital, US Official Says**

(U) Mayadin – The US believes ISIS is bringing together all of its experts on chemical weapons from Iraq and Syria into a new "chemical weapons cell," according to a US official. The new unit is being set up in an ISIS-controlled area in Syria between Mayadin, Syria and the town of al Qaim, just across the Iraqi border. "Thousands" of ISIS operatives and sympathizers may be in the area, and ISIS leader Abu Bakr al Baghdadi could also be in hiding somewhere nearby, according to a US defense official.

SOURCE: 17 May 2017, [CNN](#)

**(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.**

**(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL [STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV](mailto:STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV), OR CALL 916-874-1100.**

*Warning: This document is the exclusive property of the State Threat Assessment Center (STAC) and is UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (U//FOUO). It contains information that may be exempt from public release under the California Public Records Act (Govt. Code Sec. 6250-6270). It is to be controlled, stored, handled, transmitted, distributed, and disposed of in accordance with STAC policy relating to U//FOUO information and is not to be released to the public, the media, or other personnel who do not have a valid "need-to-know" without prior approval of an authorized STAC official. No portion of this report should be furnished to the media, either in written or verbal form.*

*This document contains excerpts of suspicious activities and incidents of interest to the STAC as obtained from open and unclassified sources.*